

# United States Patent and Trademark Office



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

PPLICATION NO.		FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO	
10/026,020	·	12/27/2001	Ralph H: Johnson	V637-02670 US	V637-02670 US 6112	
128	7590	12/19/2003		EXAMINER		
		TERNATIONAL IN	NGUYEN,	NGUYEN, DUNG T		
101 COLUI P O BOX 2	MBIA ROAD 245 ART UNIT PAPER NUME				PAPER NUMBER	
	STOWN, NJ 07962-2245 2828					
				DATE MAILED: 12/19/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<u> </u>		Application No.	Applicant(s)	
. +		10/026,020	JOHNSON, RALPH H.	
•	Office Action Summary	Examin r		
	•	Dung (Michael) T Nguyen	2828	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
	The MAILING DATE of this communication a			dress
Period fo		••		
THE - Exte after - If the - If NO - Failt - Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REIMAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION Insions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. It is period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a solution of the period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period for reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by state reply received by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the material part of the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than the provided by the Office later than three months after the provided by the Office later than the provid	N. 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply by the statutory minimum of thirty (30 iod will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS tute, cause the application to become ABAND	be timely filed  ) days will be considered timely from the mailing date of this co	/. mmunication.
1)[ <b>X</b>	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4	17/03		
2a)□		nis action is non-final.		
3)□		wance except for formal matters, er <i>Ex part</i> e Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11	, prosecution as to the I, 453 O.G. 213.	merits is
Disposit	ion of Claims	•		
4)⊠	Claim(s) <u>1-28 and 45-59</u> is/are pending in the	ne application.		
ŕ	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdr		Λ	1
5)[	Claim(s) is/are allowed.		Paul S	P
6)⊠	Claim(s) <u>1-28 and 45-59</u> is/are rejected.		•	•
	Claim(s) is/are objected to.		PAUL IP SUPERVISORY PATENT	EYAMMED
8)[	Claim(s) are subject to restriction and	d/or election requirement.	TECHNOLOGY CENTI	
<b>Applicat</b>	ion Papers			
9)[	The specification is objected to by the Exam	iner.		
10)	The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) a	accepted or b) objected to by t	the Examiner.	
	Applicant may not request that any objection to t			
_	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the corr			
11)	The oath or declaration is objected to by the	Examiner. Note the attached Of	fice Action or form PT	O-152.
_	under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120			
*; 13) / s 3 4 14) /	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for fore All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority docume 2. Certified copies of the priority docume 3. Copies of the certified copies of the papplication from the International Bur See the attached detailed Office action for a lacknowledgment is made of a claim for dome ince a specific reference was included in the 17 CFR 1.78.  2) The translation of the foreign language Acknowledgment is made of a claim for dome eference was included in the first sentence or	ents have been received. ents have been received in Appliance of the certified copies not recestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1 first sentence of the specification provisional application has been estic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§	ication No ceived in this National reived. 19(e) (to a provisional on or in an Application received. 120 and/or 121 since	l application) Data Sheet. a specific
Attachmer	nt(s)			
2) Notice	ce of References Cited (PTO-892) ce of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s	5) Notice of Inform	mary (PTO-413) Paper No(s nal Patent Application (PTC	

Art Unit: 2828

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

# Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-28 and 45-59 have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### **Double Patenting**

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-28 and 45-59 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-16 and 19-59 of copending Application No. 10/026044, claims 1-6 of copending Application No. 10/026055 and claims 1-27 and 29-34 of copending Application No. 10/026016.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Art Unit: 2828

The subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows: Claims 1, 45 and 53 of application number 10/026020 recite a VCSEL comprising at least one quantum well having a depth of at least 40 meV and comprised of InGaAsSb. Claims 1, 37 and 48 of copending application number 10/026044 recite a VCSEL comprising at least one quantum well having a depth of at least 40 meV and comprised of GaAsSb. Further claim 48 of copending application number 10/026044 recites an AlGaAs confinement layers sandwiching said barrier layers. The limitation in claims 1, 45 and 53 of this. application is basically the same as the limitation in claims 1, 37 and 48 of the copending application 10/026044. The claims recite alternative substitution elements such as Al, In, N with the basic material GaAs. Therefore claims 1-28 and 45-59, and claims 1-16 and 19-59 of copending application 10/026044 are considered as the "same invention". Furthermore, the substituted elements are disclosed in each application specification and title of the invention. Thus, the claims are not patentable distinct from each other.

The subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows: Claims 1, 45 and 53 of application number 10/026020 recite a VCSEL comprising at least one quantum well having a depth of at least 40 meV and comprised of InGaAsSb. Claims 1, 3 and 5 of copending application number 10/026055 recite a VCSEL comprising at least one quantum well having a depth of at least 40 meV and comprised of

Art Unit: 2828

InGaAs; AlGaAs and GaAsN confinement layers. The limitation in claims 1, 45 and 53 of this application is basically the same as the limitation in claims 1, 3 and 5 of the copending application 10/026055. The claims recite alternative substitution elements such as Al, In, N with the basic material GaAs. Therefore claims 1-28 and 45-53 and claims 1-6 of copending application 10/026055 are considered as the "same invention". Furthermore, the substituted elements are disclosed in each application specification and title of the invention. Thus, the claims are not patentable distinct from each other.

The subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows: Claims 1, 45 and 53 of application number 10/026020 recite a VCSEL comprising at least one quantum well having a depth of at least 40 meV and comprised of InGaAsSb. Claims 1, 25 and 33 of copending application number 10/026016 recite a VCSEL comprising at least one quantum well having a depth of at least 40 meV and comprised of InGaAsSbN. Further claim 25 of copending application number 10/026016 recites an AlGaAs confinement layers. The limitation in claims 1, 45 and 53 of this application is basically the same as the limitation in claims 1, 25 and 33 of the copending application 10/026016. The claims recite alternative substitution elements such as Al, In, N, Sb with the basic material GaAs. Therefore claims 1-28 and 45-59 and claims 1-27 and 29-34 of copending application 10/026016 are considered as the "same invention". Furthermore, the substituted elements are disclosed in each application specification and title of the invention. Thus, the claims are not patentable distinct from each other.

Art Unit: 2828

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-28 and 45-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jewell et al (US6359920) in view of Ishikawa (US5841152).

With respect to claims 1-28 and 45-59, Jewell et al disclose a VCSEL (100) comprising an active region (110) further comprising at least one quantum well (126, 128) of GaAsSb having a depth of 40meV (Fig.2b) and further including GaAs barrier layer (54') sandwiching said at least one quantum well and GaAs confinement layer (70') sandwiching said active region and nitrogen to be used at least 1% in group V of semiconductor material in the active region.

Jewell also disclose alternative substitution elements such as In, Al, N, Sb with the basic material GaAs and the quantum well is up to and including 50 ´, note col. 5 line 24 to col. 37 line 18, see figures 1-11. However, Jewell do not disclose the quantum well depth is defined as the difference between a valence band offset and a conduction band offset. Ishikawa teaches the quantum well depth is defined as the difference between a valence band offset and a conduction band offset (col.5, l.13-15). For the benefit of calculating the quantum well depth, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide

Art Unit: 2828

Jewell the quantum well depth is defined as the difference between a valence band offset and a conduction band offset as taught by Ishikawa.

#### **Communication Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung (Michael) T Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-7159. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 17:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Ip can be reached on (703) 308-3098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-3329.

Nguyen (Michael) Dung

PAUL IP SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800